

REMARKS

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter of all claims, except claim 21, is noted with appreciation.

Claims 3-9, 14-18, 21, 27, and 30-41 are pending in the application. Claim 21 has been amended to overcome the applied references. Claims 37-41 have been added to provide Applicants with the scope of protection to which they are believed entitled. The newly added claims are readable on the elected invention, as will be apparent to the Examiner upon reviewing these claims. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The *35 U.S.C. 103(a)* rejection of claim 21 is believed overcome in view of the above amendments. In particular, claim 21 has been amended to specify that the each of said second arms is connected to one of said first arms by a connecting portion to define a half of the edge protector, said half having a generally **S-shaped profile** in cross section. As can be seen in the figures of the applied references, the references do not fairly teach or suggest the newly claimed limitation. Withdrawal of the *35 U.S.C. 103(a)* rejection of claim 21 is believed appropriate and therefore courteously solicited.

New claims 37-41 depend from claim 21, and are considered patentable at least for the reason advanced with respect to amended claim 21. Claims 37-41 are also patentable on their own merits since these claims recite other features of the invention neither disclosed, taught nor suggested by the applied art. In particular, new claims 37-41 include the limitations of allowed claims 7-9, 32 and 34, respectively.

Claims 3-9, 14-18, 27, and 30-36 stand allowed.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 8, 2004